



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,966	11/10/2003	Yi-Cheng Yuan	OTMP0058USA	2965
27765	7590	02/10/2005	EXAMINER	
NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE (NAIPC)			ESTRADA, ANGEL R	
P.O. BOX 506			ART UNIT	
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			PAPER NUMBER	
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No. **6**

10/605,966

Applicant(s)

YUAN, YI-CHENG

Examiner

Angel R. Estrada

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9 and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 lines 3-4, "a bottom" to --a bottom wall--.

Claim 1 lines 7-8, "the bottom" to --the bottom wall--.

Claim 4 lines 1-2, "the inner sidewall", lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 5, lines 1-2, "the inner sidewall of the guiding sheet", lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 7 line 1, "the guiding sheets", lacks antecedent basis; claim 1 only mentions "at least one guiding sheet".

Claim 8 line 3, "the guiding sheets", lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 8 line 4, "the resilient stopper being mounted between the guiding sheets", confusing and unclear. Since there is only one guiding sheet, the Examiner assumed that the resilient stopper is between the guiding sheet and the wall having the connecting hole.

Claim 9 line 6, "the guiding sheets", lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 11 line 2, "the guiding sheets", lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2831

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen (US 6,452,792).

Regarding claim 1, Chen discloses a fastening structure (see figure 3), mounted inside a power control box (60), the fastening structure comprising: at least one guiding sheet (68), vertically mounted on a bottom wall (70) of the power control box (60) to form a guiding face inside the power control box (column 2 lines 54-58); and at least one resilient stopper (64), having a fixed end and a free end (see figure 3), wherein the fixed end is mounted on the bottom wall (70, see figure 3) of the power control box (60), and the free end faces guiding sheet (68, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 3, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3), wherein the guiding sheet (68) and the resilient stopper (64) are integrally formed with the power control box (60, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 4, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3), wherein an inner sidewall of the guiding sheet (68) and a wall (70, bottom wall) of the power control box (60) are a guiding face (see figure 3 or column 2 lines 54-58).

Regarding claim 5, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3), wherein an inner sidewall of the guiding sheet (68) is a guiding face (see figure 3 or column 2 lines 54-58).

Regarding claim 6, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3), wherein the resilient stopper (64) is mounted behind the guiding sheet (68, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 7, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3) wherein the guiding sheets (68) are oppositely mounted inside the power control box (60, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 8, Chen discloses the fastening structure (see figure 3), further comprising at least one connecting hole (see figure 3, notice the holes in 80) through one wall of the power control box (60), and the guiding sheet (68) is vertically mounted on the bottom wall (70) behind the wall (80) having the connecting hole (see figure 3), with the resilient stopper (64) being mounted between the guiding sheet (68) and the wall having the connecting hole (see figure 3).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen (US 6,452,792) in view of Lopez (US 6,285,545).

Regarding claim 2, Chen discloses the claimed invention except for the guiding sheet having a reversed "L" shaped free end. Lopez teaches a fastening structure (see figure 1) mounted inside a power control box (10) comprising at least one guiding sheet

(24) having a reversed "L" shaped free end (see figure 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make Chen's guiding sheet having a reversed "L" shaped free end as taught by Lopez to facilitate the assembly and provide means that would secure the top wall of any electrical component mounted inside the box. Furthermore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to change the shape of the guiding sheet to a reversed "L" shaped free end, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component. Where the instant specification and evidence of record fail to attribute any significance (novel or unexpected results) to a particular shape, a change of shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. *Span-Deck Inc. v. FabCon, Inc.*, 215 USPQ 835.

4. Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicant's admitted prior art (see figures 1 and 2) in view of Chen (US 6,452,792).

Regarding claim 9, the applicant's admitted prior art (see figures 1 and 2) discloses an adapter module assembly (see figure 1), comprising: a fastening structure (4,5, see figure 2), and an adapter module (1) including at least one input connector (2); but the applicant's admitted prior art lacks a fastening structure having at least one guiding sheet and a resilient stopper, wherein a front upper edge of the adapter module is placed between the guiding sheets and the resilient stopper abuts against a back side of the adapter module. Chen teaches a fastening structure (see figure 3) for a module (50, such as an adapter module) comprising: guiding sheet (68), wherein a front upper edge of the module (50) is placed between the guiding sheets (see figures 3 and 4) and

a resilient stopper (64) abuts against a back side of the module (see figure 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide to the applicant's admitted prior art with a fastening structure having guiding sheets and a resilient stopper, wherein a front upper edge of the adapter module is placed between the guiding sheets and the resilient stopper abuts against a back side of the module as taught by Chen to improve the fastening of the module by providing means that will limit the movement of the module in certain directions.

Regarding claim 10, the applicant's admitted prior art (see figures 1 and 2) discloses the adapter module assembly (see figures 1 and 2), wherein the adapter module (1) is a tuner (page 1 paragraph 0005).

Regarding claim 11, the modified applicant's admitted prior art (see figures 1 and 2) discloses the claimed invention except for the guiding sheets matching the size of the front upper edge of the adapter module. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to change the size of the guiding sheets to match the size of the upper edge of the adapter module, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size of a component. A change in size is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. In re. Rose, 105 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1955).

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Anderson et al (US 6,154,361), Vu et al (US 5,503,472), Sheng-Hsiung et al (US 6,590,766), Chen et al (US 6,556,432), Aggus et al (US 6,191,953), Monson et al (US 6,480,391) disclose a fastening structure for a module.

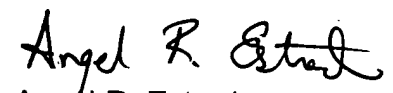
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Angel R. Estrada at telephone number (571) 272-1973. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30 -5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext: 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 1, 2005

  
Angel R. Estrada  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit: 2831